

her leadership, Somersworth will be home to the world's first Little Indonesia—a cultural attraction that will expand educational and economic opportunities, and which aims to benefit all in my state. New Hampshire is proud to call Raychel a resident, and we all benefit from her ingenuity and her commitment to her community.

I want to recognize Raychel for not just saying the oath of allegiance to her new country, but for embodying the very meaning of being a citizen. On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I welcome Raychel as an American Citizen and celebrate the work she does for the people of the Granite State. I thank her for her many contributions and continued efforts to improving the lives of all in our state.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE RENEWABLE ENERGY INVESTMENT ACT

### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2021*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Renewable Energy Investment Act. Last Congress' version of this legislation passed the House in Section 90404 of the Moving Forward Act (H.R. 2, 116th Cong.) and would allow taxpayers to elect to take clean energy credits as a direct payment, rather than a credit against tax.

For decades, the Production and Investment Tax Credits (PTCs and ITCs) have together supported substantial expansions in the development of clean energy across the United States. Despite years of temporary federal tax policy, the cost of wind and solar energy generation has come down significantly, leaving it competitive with, and in some cases cheaper than, fossil fuel-generated energy. However, the COVID-19 pandemic threatened the sector's long-term success and continues to have visible impacts today.

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly constricted tax equity markets that are used to finance renewable energy construction. This constriction makes financing the project more difficult since tax equity investors may not have the tax equity to utilize all the available credits, therefore making investment less attractive. With the potential for more available credits in the coming years, there may not be a robust enough investor base to take full advantage of available incentives without a direct payment option.

The Renewable Energy Investment Act allows taxpayers to receive a payment for renewable energy investments rather than a tax credit. Not only does this provide much-needed relief for tax equity markets, it also allows taxpayers with little or no tax liability to accelerate utilization of these credits and expand the pool of eligible investors to additional deployment of renewable energy across the country.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and Senate to enact this legislation as part of a comprehensive infrastructure and clean energy package.

#### HONORING DALYLAH ALEXIS RYBOLT

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2021*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dalylah Alexis Rybolt. Dalylah is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 74G, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dalylah has been very active with her troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Dalylah has been involved with scouting, she has not only earned 36 merit badges, but also the respect of her family, peers, and community. Dalylah has also contributed to her community through her Eagle Scout project. Dalylah cleaned up Groves Cemetery by clearing brush piles and dead trees and installed a new telescoping flagpole with top solar lighting.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dalylah Alexis Rybolt for her accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK

### HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2021*

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, last week we commemorated "National Correctional Officers Week" and recognize the men and women who serve as correctional officers across the United States. President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the first week in May as National Correctional Officers Week thirty-seven years ago "in recognition of the contributions of correctional officers to our Nation." Especially over the past year, we have witnessed the substantial contributions of correctional officers and all law-enforcement officers in our neighborhoods and communities.

As we continue to face challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever to recognize the vital work that correctional officers perform on a daily basis, risking their lives in the course of carrying out their duties. "Stay-at-home" orders do not apply to our correctional officers. Public safety demands that these brave men and women come to work every day. Our nation's correctional officers did their best to keep themselves and those under their custody and care safe under these challenging circumstances.

There are currently over two million people incarcerated in jails and prisons throughout the United States. Our nation faces a great challenge to keep both staff and inmates at correctional facilities safe during this pandemic and amid radical proposals to defunct law-enforcement entities. Correctional officers are an integral part of our criminal justice system and

they play a key role in helping maintain public safety. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 400,000 correctional officers in the United States for the difficult and often thankless job that they do day in and day out.

#### REMEMBERING RHEA K. HALE

### HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2021*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and recognize the late Rhea K. Hale, a constituent of mine, who devoted her career to protecting the environment and promoting sustainability.

Ms. Hale's determination enabled her to forge an impressive career doing what she loved. She worked for IBM's Center for Environmentally Conscious Products, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the American Forest, and Paper Association, and WestRock. She was a respected and well-known voice within the industry, as well as a recognized authority on issues related to public policy and sustainability.

Ms. Hale had a talent for seeing possibilities, and the vision and persistence to bring them to life. She is remembered by her friends and colleagues not only as a passionate and determined advocate for bettering our planet, but also as a kind, thoughtful, caring, and unfailing friend.

One of Ms. Hale's friends noted that "If you walked into a room and Rhea was there, everything was better." Although our Commonwealth has lost a wonderful, intelligent person, we must reflect on her work and honor her legacy. Rhea will be deeply missed by her family, her friends, her colleagues, and all those whom she touched during her life.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing my deepest condolences to Ms. Hale's family, and in honoring her life's work.

#### HONORING DOMINIC ZURELLA

### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2021*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dominic Zurella, of Canfield, Ohio, to thank him for his service to our country and to wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

Mr. Zurella was a Technical Sergeant and radio operator during World War II in the U.S. Air Force. During the war, he participated in 26 missions with the 91st Bomb Group, "The Ragged Irregulars," and the 324th Bomb Squadron from November 26, 1943 to March 26, 1944.

Dominic will be 100 years old on May 23, 2021 and I salute him on this tremendous milestone. Madam Speaker, I ask you and all our colleagues to please join me in wishing Mr. Zurella a happy birthday and thank him for his heroic service to our country.